

PROVIDING FOR THE SALE AND DISPOSAL OF PUBLIC LANDS
WITHIN THE AREA HERETOFORE SURVEYED AS BOULDER
LAKE, WIS.

JANUARY 27, 1925.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and
ordered to be printed

Mr. LEAVITT, from the Committee on the Public Lands, submitted
the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 11922]

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 11922) to provide for the sale and disposal of public lands adjacent to Boulder Lake, in the State of Wisconsin, erroneously omitted from the original surveys of lands in the vicinity, having considered the same, report it to the House with the recommendation that it do pass without amendment. Before the survey in question was made the State Young Men's Christian Association of Wisconsin had purchased an adjoining lot, at a cost of \$8,250, believing they were acquiring all the land between the west line of said lot and the lake shore. Subsequently they have established a camp on land adjacent to the lake, now found to be on public lands, at an approximate cost of \$30,000, including the price paid for the lot. The association contemplates spending \$22,000 more during the coming year in improving its plant.

This bill proposes simply to recognize the equities of the Y. M. C. A., allowing a preference right to purchase the land between the lake and Y. M. C. A. land, since the land was at the time of purchase believed to extend to the shore line.

A report on the bill by the Secretary of the Interior, saying that the proposed legislation is in the public interest, and that there is no objection to its enactment, reads as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 26, 1925.

Hon. N. J. SINNOTT,
*Chairman Committee on the Public Lands,
House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. SINNOTT: I am in receipt of your request for report upon (H. R. 11922) a bill providing for the sale and disposal of certain public lands adjacent to Boulder Lake, Wis.

The lands involved are part of an area erroneously omitted from the original surveys of lands in the vicinity, have recently been determined to be public lands of the United States, and have been surveyed.

Prior to such determination the State Young Men's Christian Association of Wisconsin had, I am advised, purchased the adjoining lot 6, paying \$8,250 therefor, believing that they were acquiring all the land between the west line of said lot and the shore of the lake. Subsequently they have established a camp on lands adjacent to the lake, now found to be public lands, at an expenditure of approximately \$30,000, including the purchase price of lot 6, and contemplate spending about \$22,000 additional during the coming year. The Y. M. C. A. has also purchased lot 8, lying south and east of the area upon which the camp is located. The attached bill proposes to recognize their equities and possession under claim and color of title, and permit the purchase of the riparian lands at \$1.25 per acre.

On the facts as presented to the department, the legislation proposed would seem to be in the public interest, and this department is aware of no objection to its enactment.

Sincerely yours,

HUBERT WORK, *Secretary.*

Following is a statement of officers of the Wisconsin Y. M. C. A., setting forth the nature of activities at this camp:

In its use of this land in Vilas County, Wis., the State Y. M. C. A. of Wisconsin is cooperating in the development of this section of the State and is conducting an educational and character-building program for boys. The camp is operated at less than cost to the boys and the improvements made have been donated by interested citizens. (See financial statement.) The camp managers plant trees, assist in maintaining roads giving the public access to the lake, and guard the property against damage by forest fires. They employ a caretaker and his family who live continuously on the property the entire year. The camp is open to any boy who wishes to enroll, between the ages of 12 and 18, and already nearly 1,000 boys from all sections of Wisconsin have had the benefit of this wonderful experience.

Respectfully submitted.

H. F. LINDSAY, *Milwaukee, President,*
H. A. MOEHLNPAH, *Milwaukee,*
J. G. ROSEBUSH, *Appleton,*
H. E. ANDREWS, *Portage,*
D. C. EVEREST, *Wausau,*
C. G. GITTINGS, *Racine,*
B. C. EVEREST, *Ashland.*

Committee Representing State Y. M. C. A. of Wisconsin

Following is a statement of expenses incurred by the Wisconsin Y. M. C. A. in constructing, equipping, and maintaining the camp, exclusive of the cost of the land:

Statement showing cost to State Y. M. C. A. of Camp Manitowish property (lot 6, sec. 18, T. 42 N., R. 7 E.) on Boulder Lake, Vilas County, Wis., and annual improvements

Price paid for lot 6 with buildings and equipment, June, 1919-----	\$8, 250. 00
Additional for improvements, repairs, and equipment, 1919-----	1, 902. 37
Improvements, repairs, and equipment:	
1920-----	4, 160. 02
1921-----	1, 978. 68
1922-----	2, 334. 55
1923-----	3, 259. 02
1924-----	5, 448. 07
Total-----	27, 332. 71
Improvements authorized for 1925, \$23,500.	

The bill reads as follows:

[H. R. 11922, Sixty-eighth Congress, second session]

A BILL Providing for the sale and disposal of public lands within the area heretofore surveyed as Boulder Lake, in the State of Wisconsin

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That on the survey of any public lands found to exist within the area heretofore surveyed as Boulder Lake, in section 18, township 42 north of range 7 east, fourth principal meridian, in the State of Wisconsin, the State Young Men's Christian Association of Wisconsin, owner of lots 6 and 8, said section 18, shall have a preference right to purchase such lands so surveyed adjacent to and lying between said lots 6 and 8 and the shore line of the lake as now established for a period of sixty days after the filing of the official plats of such survey, at \$1.25 per acre: *Provided*, That such privilege shall not extend to any lands so surveyed inuring to the State of Wisconsin under the act of September 28, 1850 (Ninth Statutes at Large, page 519): *Provided further*, That nothing herein contained shall have the effect of defeating the rights of any other person or persons which may have attached to such lands or any part thereof.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to make all necessary rules and regulations to carry this act into effect.

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